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ABSTRACT

This report presents the findings of a Harris survey of high school students' attitudes on human rights and racial relations, with special emphasis on minority group athletes. The following findings are included: (1) a majority have seen or heard about violent racial confrontations; (2) 30 percent would intervene to stop or condemn the incident; (3) one-fourth report having been the target of bias; (4) slightly more than half would report an incident to their parents, but only one in four would report the incident to a teacher; (5) most believe that human rights extend far beyond what is guaranteed by law; (6) students exhibited a high awareness of discrimination against a number of minority groups; (7) students are well-informed about human rights; (8) more than half report being involved in some form of community activity; (9) students regard athletes as role models; (10) one in five say they would join a school group to discuss racial differences with visiting athletes and subsequently become involved in a community action program; (11) students are interested in learning more about their own and other racial groups; (12) student athletes have highly unrealistic aspirations; (13) school athletics serve to reduce racial tensions; (14) student athletes are role models for other students; (15) students reject the stereotype of the "dumb jock"; and (16) students have major misconceptions about the status of minority group athletes. Statistical data are presented in one table and five graphs. (FMW)

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